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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 23 February 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the "Special communiqué on the question of the Malvinas Islands" adopted in October 2016 at the twenty-fifth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, held in the city of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 43.

(*Signed*) Jorge **Skinner-Klée Arenales**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Guatemala

17-04216 (E) 200317 220317

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Annex to the letter dated 23 February 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Special communiqué on the question of the Malvinas Islands

The Heads of State and Government of the Ibero-American countries, meeting in the city of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth Ibero-American Summit:

Reaffirm the need for the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume negotiations as soon as possible with a view to finding an early solution to the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, within the framework of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the Organization of American States and the provisions and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations, including the principle of territorial integrity.

Underscore the successive General Assembly resolutions urging the Secretary-General to use his good offices with a view to the resumption of negotiations for the purpose of finding a peaceful solution to the above-mentioned dispute as soon as possible.

Reiterate the importance of observing General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls upon the two parties to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are going through the process recommended by the General Assembly.

Welcome the bilateral meetings held in Davos, Switzerland, on 21 January 2016 and in Washington D.C. on 1 April 2016 between the President of the Argentine Republic and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and the willingness of both leaders, while acknowledging the two countries' differences, to embark on a path of open dialogue.

Highlight the ongoing constructive attitude and willingness of the Argentine Government to reach, through negotiations, a definitive solution to what the United Nations has defined as a special and particular colonial situation.